

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A network system comprising:

a terminal device including a slot for inserting and ejecting a memory device that stores information for user authentication; and

a network server connected to said terminal device via prescribed communication means, wherein when said terminal device detects that said memory device is inserted into said slot, a request for authentication is sent to said network server by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification to said network server, and said information for user authentication ~~and~~ ~~said information about terminal specification~~ is stored in said network server in association with said information about terminal specification for future communication with said terminal device associated with said information about terminal specification when said network server authenticates the user, and said network server converts information to be transmitted to said terminal device used

by the user into conformed information conformed to said terminal device used by the user, and transmits the conformed information to said terminal device.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The network system according to claim 1, wherein said network server forms a group of a plurality of users and transmits information sent from a user belonging to said group to a terminal device used by another user belonging to said group.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented). The network system according to claim 2, further comprising storage means, and wherein said terminal device includes interface means connected to said storage means for storing information peculiar to said user and for storing specific information on said group to which said user belongs in said storage means connected to said interface means.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended). A network system comprising:

a terminal device; and

a network server connected to said terminal device via prescribed communication means, wherein when said terminal

device detects that said memory device is inserted into said slot, a request for authentication is sent to said network server by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification to said network server, and said information for user authentication ~~and said information about terminal specification~~ is stored in said network server in association with said information about terminal specification for future communication with said terminal device associated with said information about terminal specification when said network server authenticates the user, and when there is information to be transmitted to said terminal device used by the user, said network server notifies said terminal device used by the user of the presence of the information to be transmitted.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented). The network system according to claim 4, wherein

Said network server forms a group of a plurality of users and, when there is information sent from a user belonging to said group, said network server notifies a terminal device used by another user belonging to said group of the presence of the above information.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented). The network system according to claim 5, further comprising storage means, and wherein said terminal device includes interface means connected to said storage means for storing information peculiar to said user and for storing specific information on said group to which said user belongs in said storage means connected to said interface means.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended). A network server connected to a terminal device via prescribed communication means, comprising:

receiving means for receiving an authentication request including information for user authentication and information about terminal specification in response to said terminal device detecting insertion of a memory device storing said user authentication information;

recording means for recording said user authentication information ~~and said information about terminal specification~~ in said server in association with said information about terminal specification for future communication with said terminal device associated with said information about terminal specification when said user authentication information is authenticated; and

transmission means for converting information to be transmitted to said terminal device into conformed information conformed to said terminal device based on said information about terminal specification, and transmitting said conformed information to said terminal device.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented). The network server according to claim 7, further comprising group forming means for forming a group of a plurality of users, wherein said transmission means transmits information sent from a user belonging to said group to a terminal device used by another user belonging to said group.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended). A network server connected to a terminal device and via prescribed communication means, comprising:

receiving means for receiving an authentication request including information for user authentication and information about terminal specification in response to said terminal device detecting insertion of a memory device storing said user authentication information;

recording means for recording said user authentication information and said information about terminal

~~specification in said server in association with said information about terminal specification for future communication with said terminal device associated with said information about terminal specification when said user authentication information is authenticated; and~~

notice means for notifying when there is information to be transmitted to said terminal device of the presence of the information to be transmitted.

~~Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The network server according to claim 9, further comprising group forming means for forming a group of said a plurality of users, and when there is information sent from a user belonging to said group, said notice means notifies a terminal device used by another user belonging to said group of the presence of the information sent from the user.~~

~~Claims 11-12 (Canceled).~~

~~Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A terminal device connected to a server comprising:~~

~~a slot to insert and eject a memory device that stores information for user authentication; and~~

authentication request means for requesting to said server authentication by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification when said memory device is detected to be inserted into said slot, wherein said information for user authentication ~~and~~ ~~said information about terminal specification~~ are is stored on said server in association with said information about terminal specification for future communication with said terminal device associated with said information about terminal specification when said server authenticates the user.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented). A terminal device connected to a server comprising:

a slot to insert and eject a memory device that stores information for user authentication; and

erase request means for requesting to said server an erase of stored information by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification when said memory device is detected to be ejected from said slot, wherein said stored information including said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification are deleted from

said server when said server authenticates the user.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended). A method executed on a terminal device connected to a server comprising the steps of:

detecting that a memory device storing information for user authentication is inserted into a slot; and

in response to the detection, requesting to said server authentication by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification, wherein said information for user authentication and ~~said information about terminal specification~~ are is stored in said server in association with said information about terminal specification for future communication with said terminal device associated with said information about terminal specification when said server authenticates the user.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented). A method executed on a terminal device connected to a server comprising the steps of:

detecting that a memory device storing information for user authentication is ejected from a slot; and



in response to the detection, requesting to said server an erase of stored information including said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification by sending said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification, wherein said stored information on said server is deleted from said server when said server authenticates the user.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended). A method executed on a server connected to a terminal device comprising the steps of:

receiving an authentication request including information for user authentication and information about terminal specification, in response to said terminal device detecting insertion of a memory device storing said user authentication information;

storing said user authentication information and ~~said information about terminal specification~~ on said server in association with said information about terminal specification for future communication with said terminal device associated with said information about terminal specification when said user authentication information is

authenticated;

*E!*  
*+*  
*end*  
converting information to be transmitted to said terminal device into information conformed to said terminal device based on said received information about terminal specification;

transmitting said converted information to said terminal device.

---